

journal homepage: www.FEBSLetters.org

Preface

Turin special issue: Biochemistry for tomorrow's medicine

This FEBS Letters special issue is published on the occasion of the 36th FEBS Congress, "Biochemistry for Tomorrow's Medicine", held in Turin, 25–30 June 2011. The availability of the sequence of the human genome, in combination with the exponential development of functional genomics and proteomics, has opened new paths in the elucidation of the molecular basis of human diseases. This rapidly growing knowledge, supported by progress in bioinformatics, systems biology, nanobiotechnology, and imaging technology, is providing unexpected possibilities for the 'medicine of the third millennium'.

The contributions to the present issue by invited lecturers at the Congress provide different examples of research in biochemistry and molecular biology that are having such an impact on medicine. Just to mention a few, reviews on the epigenetic control of cell differentiation and transformation, the role of NAD⁺ signalling in the control of the expression of master genes, metabolic regulation in relation with nutrition and aging, human receptors in the therapy of leukemias, homeoproteins and neuroprotection in the brain, research for new therapeutic agents for malaria and tuberculosis, polymeric nanoreactors as artificial organelles, are published in

this issue. We are grateful to the authors who have accepted our invitation to contribute to the issue. We also thank Dr. Laura Marra, from the University of Bari, and the FEBS Letters Editorial Office for their valuable assistance in the editorial handling of the manuscripts.

Sergio Papa

*Department of Medical Biochemistry, Biology and Physics,
University of Bari, Italy*

E-mail address: s.papa@biochem.uniba.it

Gianfranco Gilardi

Department of Animal and Human Biology, University of Torino, Italy

E-mail address: gianfranco.gilardi@unito.it

Wilhelm Just

Biochemistry Centre, University of Heidelberg, Germany

E-mail address: Wilhelm.just@bzh.uni-heidelberg.de

Available online 7 May 2011